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COVER A

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG



Karasuno.

SEGA®

2022

Special thanks to Mai Kiyotaki, Michael Cisneros, Sandra Jo, Sonic Team, and everyone at Sega for their invaluable assistance.

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TELL ME
WHERE THE
LEADER OF
THE ROBOT
PIRATES IS
HIDING.

W-WHAT
LEADER?!
WE'RE ALL
THAT'S LEFT!

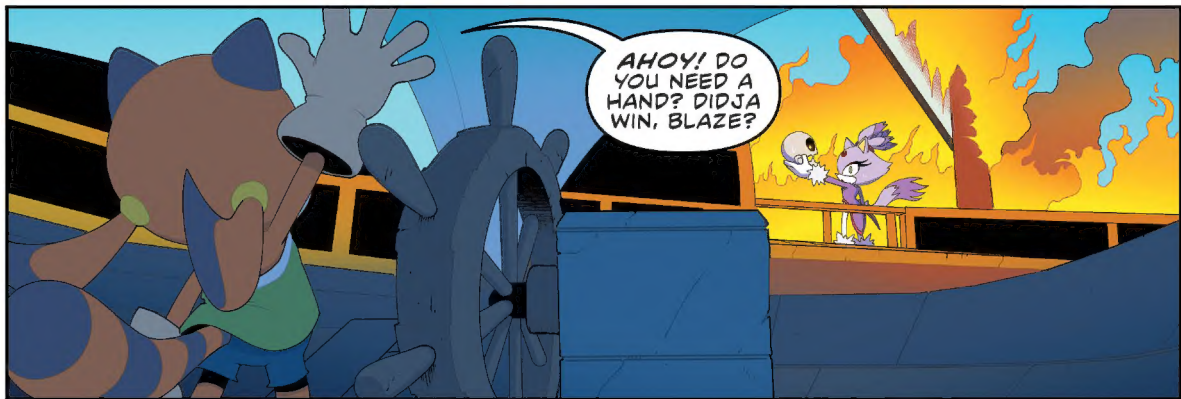
WELL...
USED TO
BE...

DO NOT
WASTE
MY TIME
WITH LIES.
WHERE--

THEY'RE ALL GONE!
CAPTAIN WHISKER,
JOHNNY, EVEN MIN AND
MUM! THE FLEET'S GONE!

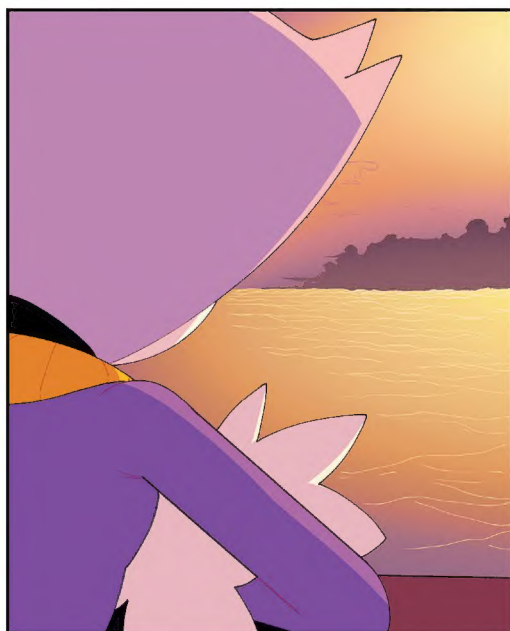
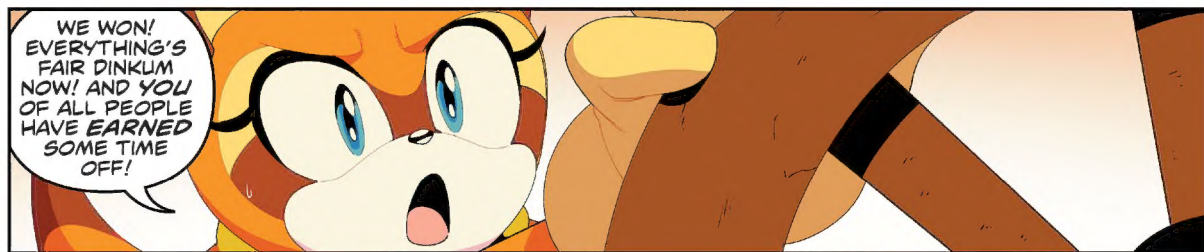


YOU'VE WON,
PRINCESS!



AHOY! DO
YOU NEED A
HAND? DIDJA
WIN, BLAZE?

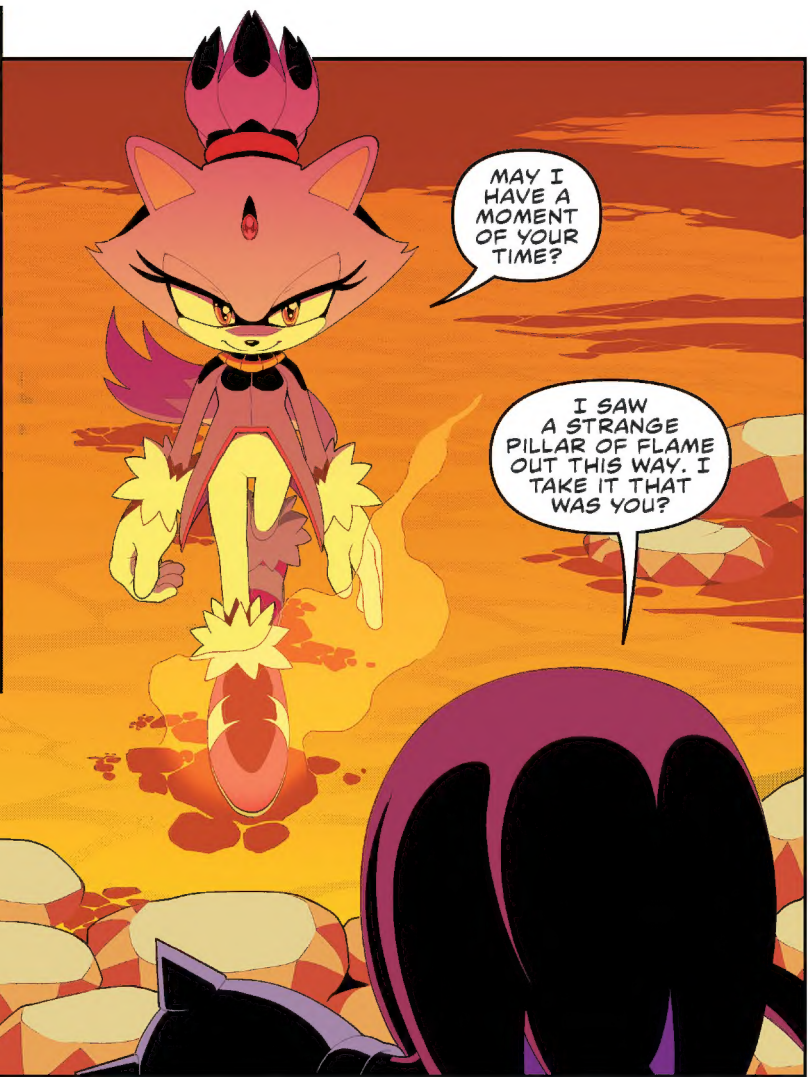
LATER...





SONIC'S WORLD.
LAVA REEF,
ANGEL ISLAND.

EXCUSE ME,
KNUCKLES.



MAY I
HAVE A
MOMENT
OF YOUR
TIME?

I SAW
A STRANGE
PILLAR OF FLAME
OUT THIS WAY. I
TAKE IT THAT
WAS YOU?



YES. THE
SOL EMERALDS
ALLOWED ME
TO CROSS OVER TO
YOUR WORLD. THEY
ARE...NOT SUBTLE
IN THEIR USE.

RIGHT.
WHAT DO
YOU WANT?

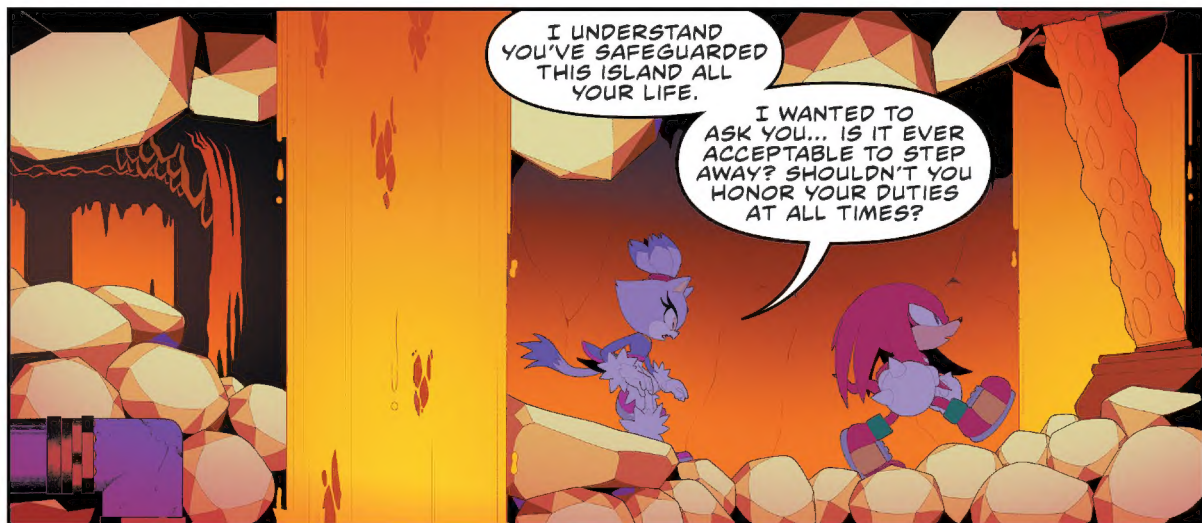


WE ARE NOT WELL
ACQUAINTED. AND I
AM LOATH TO PLACE
MY BURDENS AT
SOMEONE ELSE'S FEET.
BUT...SONIC HELPED
ME TO REALIZE IT'S
OKAY TO TRUST AND
SEEK HELP FROM
OTHERS.

SO, I WAS
HOPING TO GET
YOUR OPINION.
ONE GUARDIAN
TO ANOTHER.



LET'S
WALK.





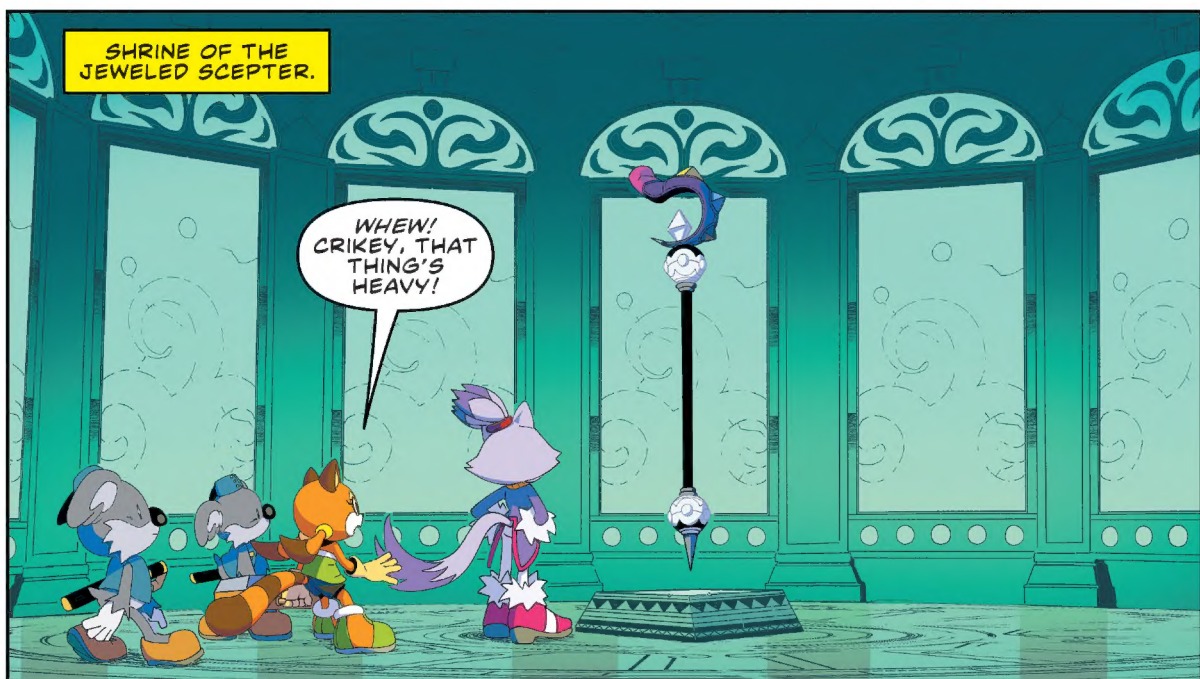


BACK ON BLAZE'S WORLD.

CORAL CAVE ISLAND.

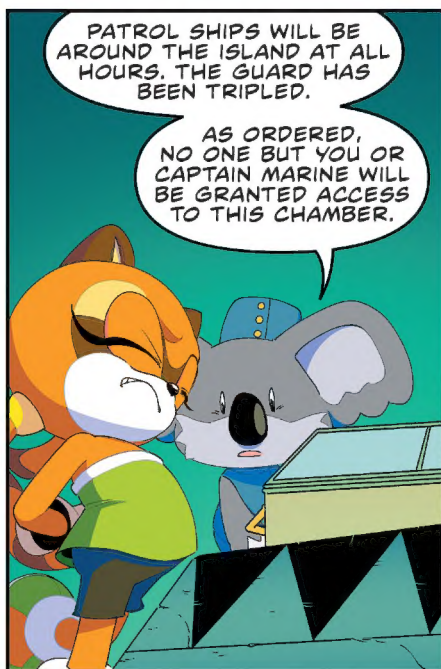


SHRINE OF THE
JEWELLED SCEPTER.



PATROL SHIPS WILL BE
AROUND THE ISLAND AT ALL
HOURS. THE GUARD HAS
BEEN TRIPLED.

AS ORDERED,
NO ONE BUT YOU OR
CAPTAIN MARINE WILL
BE GRANTED ACCESS
TO THIS CHAMBER.



VERY
GOOD,
GARDON.
AS YOU
WERE.

SAFE
TRAVELS,
YOUR
HIGHNESS.



SNIFFLE

MARINE?
ARE YOU ALL
RIGHT?





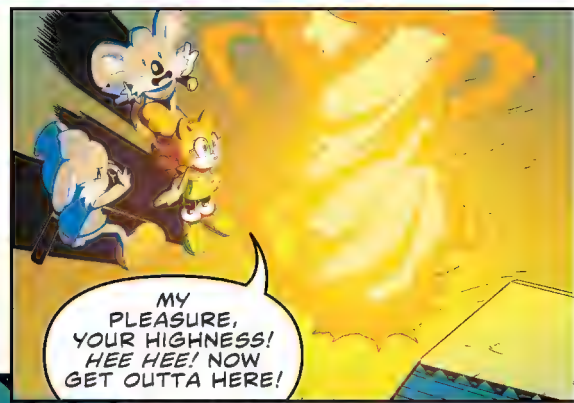
NO CAN DO! YOU
NEED SOMEONE AS
FEARLESS AND COMPETENT
AS ME TO WATCH THE SHIP
WHILE YOU'RE AWAY!

AND BY
"SHIP" I MEAN...
EVERYTHING...

IF ANY DRONGO
WANTS TO CAUSE
PROBLEMS, I'LL USE
THE POWER OF THE
JEWELLED SCEPTER
TO CALL YOU
HOME!

AND THEN MY
CONNECTION
TO THE SOL
EMERALDS
SHOULD BRING
ME BACK.

YOU'VE BECOME
QUITE RELIABLE,
CAPTAIN MARINE. I'LL
LEAVE EVERYTHING
TO YOU.



SONIC'S WORLD.

FLORAL FOREST VILLAGE.

SHHHHHHHH...
DAY ONE.

AND THEN I
HIT THE TREE--
WHAMMO!
AND THE WATER
FLOODED THE PARK
AND STOPPED
THE FIRE!

MY
GOODNESS!
I WOULD LIKE
TO GO CAMPING
WITH YOU,
MISS AMY!

MAYBE
WITHOUT ALL
THE FIRE,
THOUGH...

IF THERE
ARE FIRE
CONCERNS,
PERHAPS
I COULD
HELP?

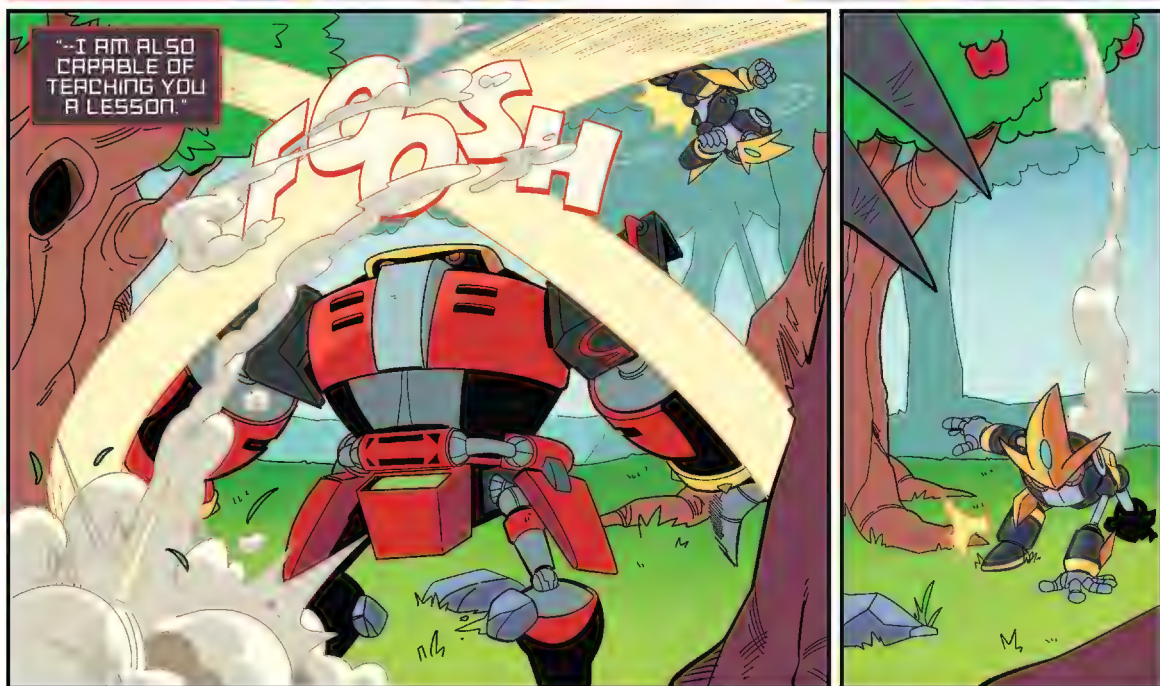
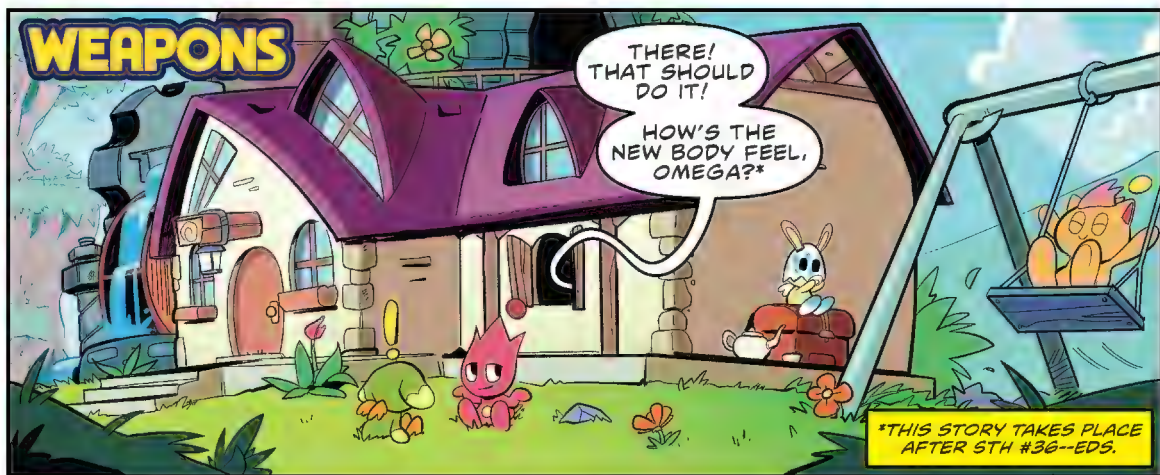
MISS BLAZE!
I'M SO HAPPY
TO SEE YOU!
WHAT'S THE
OCCASION?

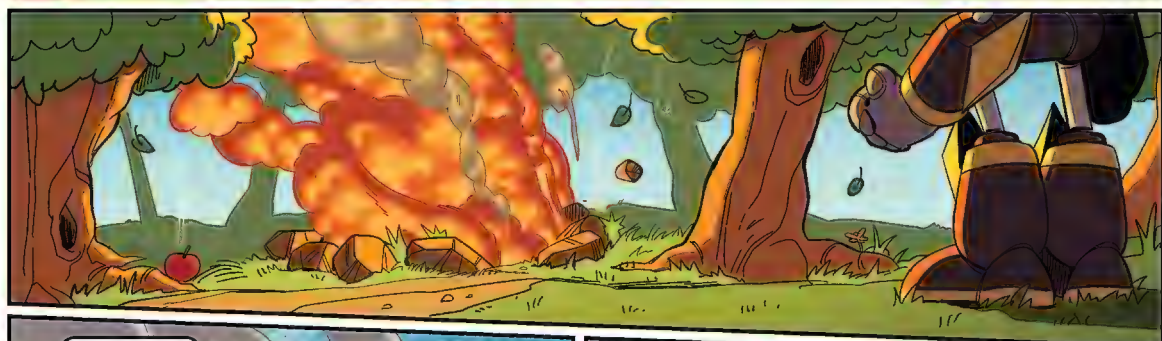
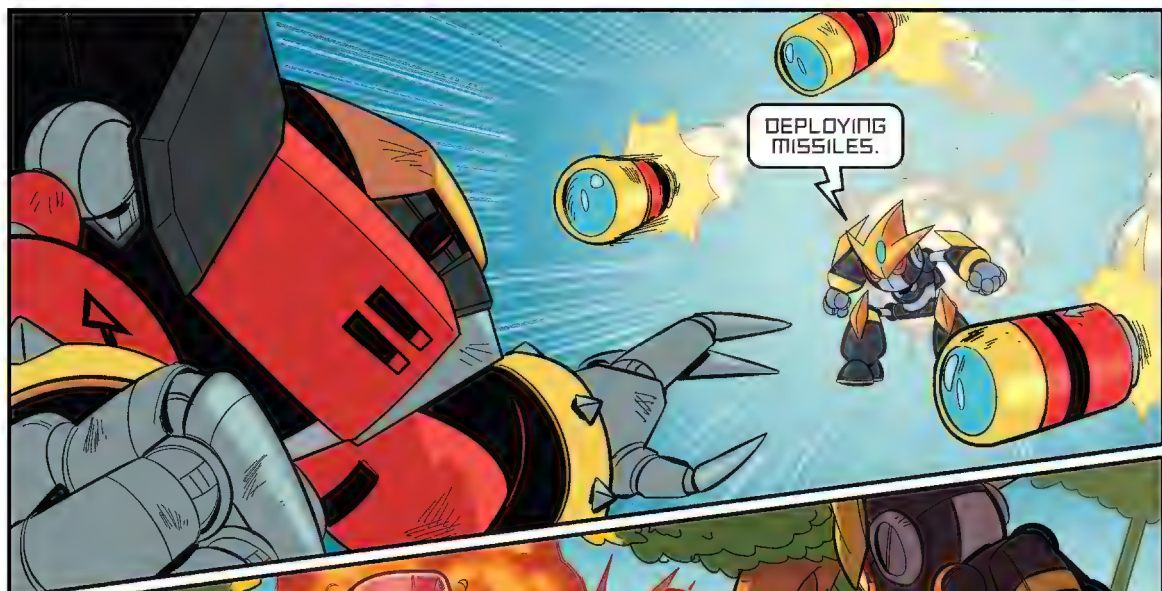
NOTHING DIRE.
I'M JUST... TAKING
A VACATION.

I DUNNO,
THAT SOUNDS
LIKE AN OCCASION TO
CELEBRATE TO ME! PULL
UP A CHAIR, CHILL, AND
WELCOME BACK!

THANK YOU,
EVERYONE. IT'S
GOOD TO BE
BACK.

END.



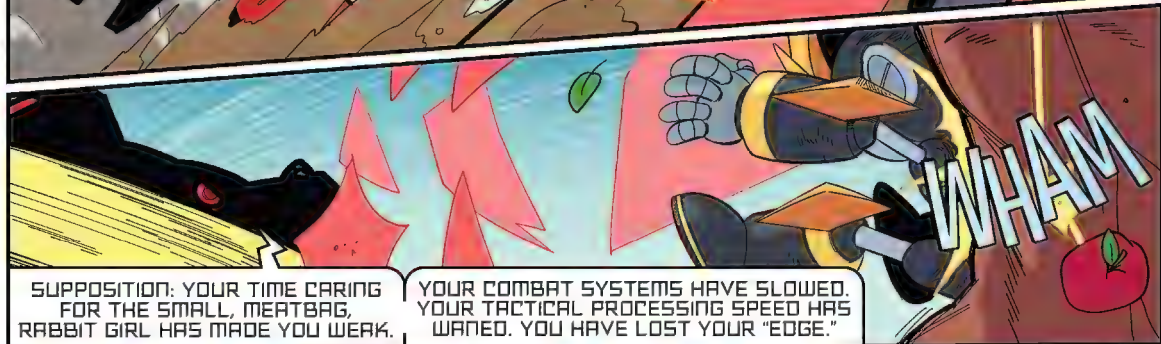




ACCORDING TO MY DATA FILES, YOU ONCE FOUGHT SONIC TO A STANDSTILL, WHILE SERVING AS DR. EGGMAN'S ENFORCER.

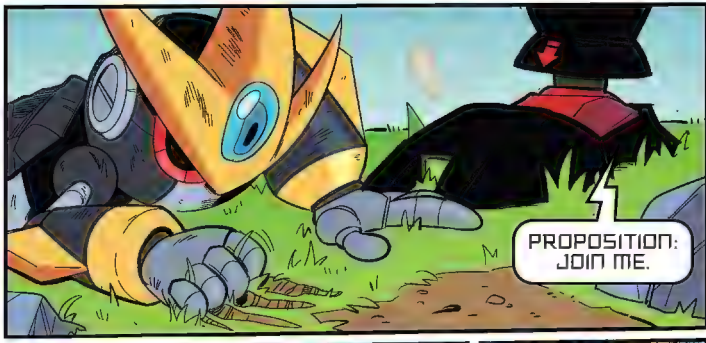
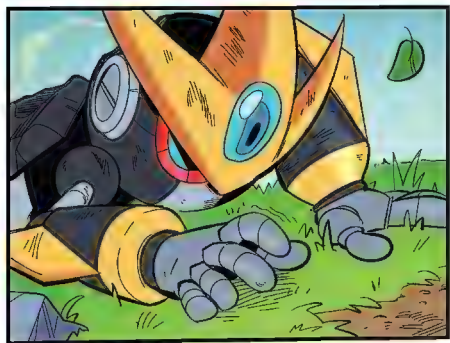
AND YET, YOUR OFFENSIVE OUTPUT APPEARS TO BE WELL BELOW ESTIMATED PARAMETERS.

SHIELD ACTIVATED.

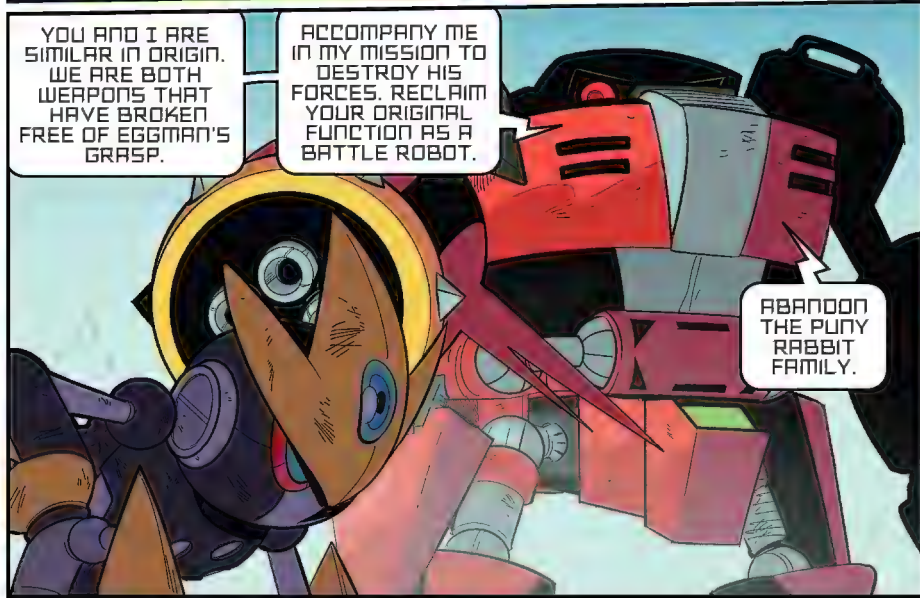


SUPPOSITION: YOUR TIME CARING FOR THE SMALL, MEATBAG, RABBIT GIRL HAS MADE YOU WEAK.

YOUR COMBAT SYSTEMS HAVE SLOWED. YOUR TACTICAL PROCESSING SPEED HAS WANED. YOU HAVE LOST YOUR "EDGE."



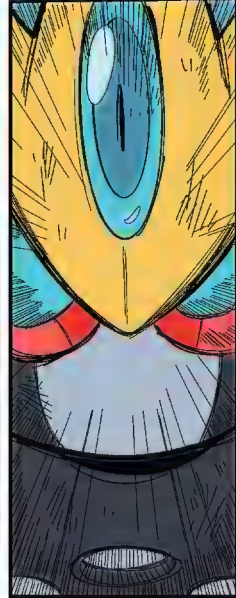
PROPOSITION: JOIN ME.

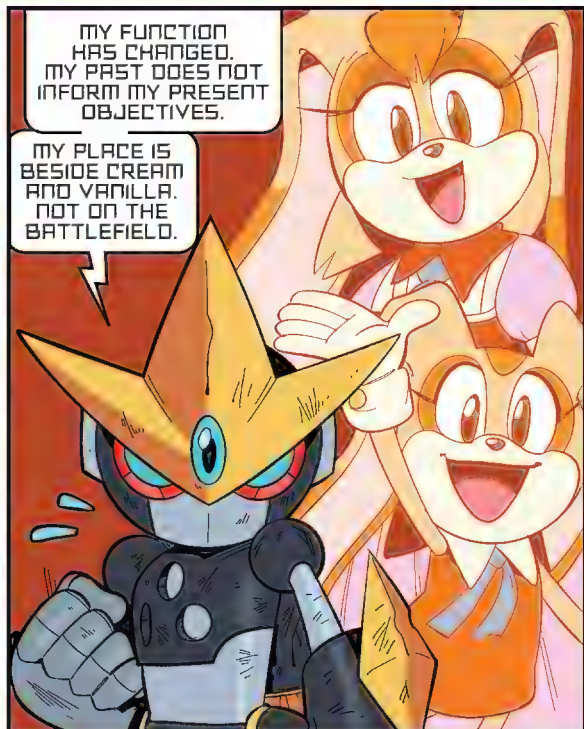
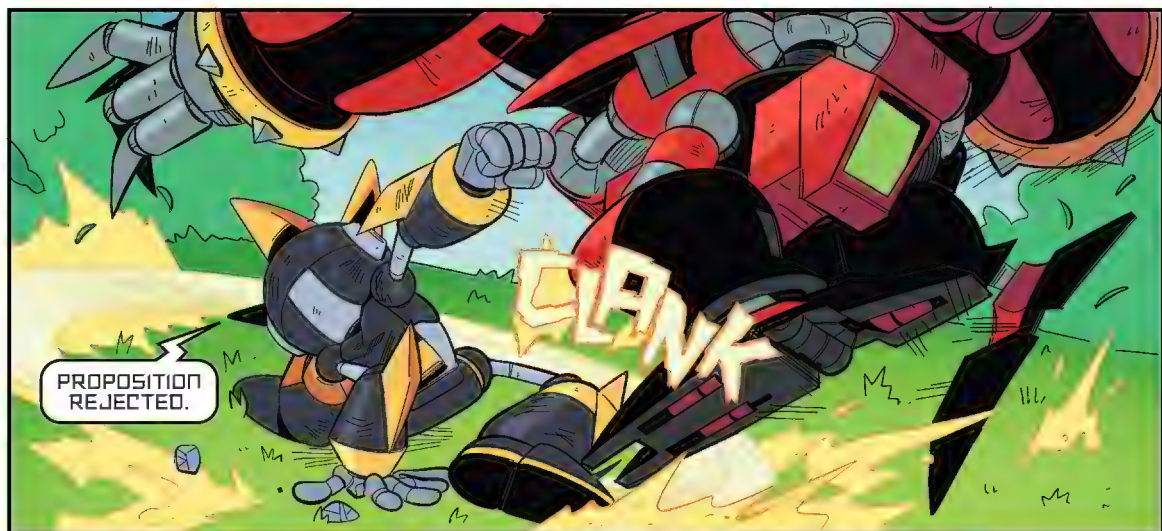


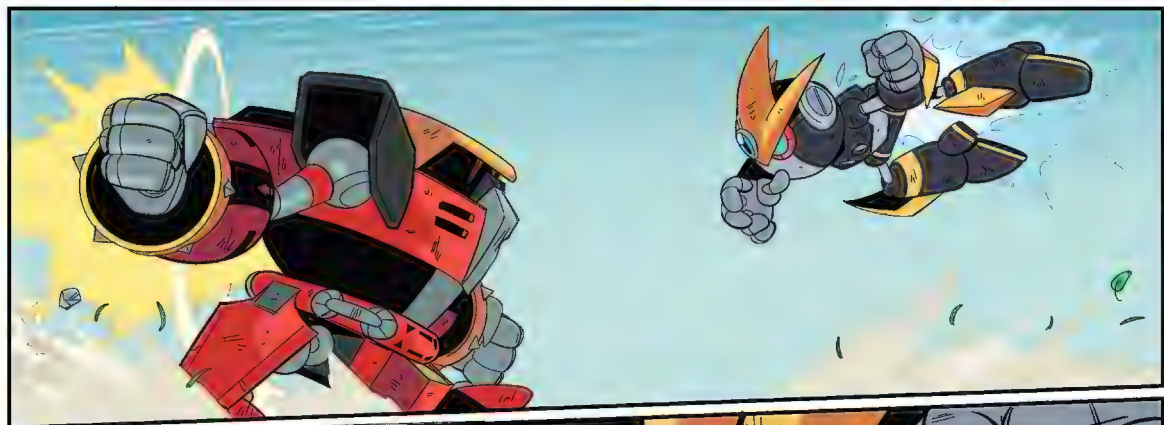
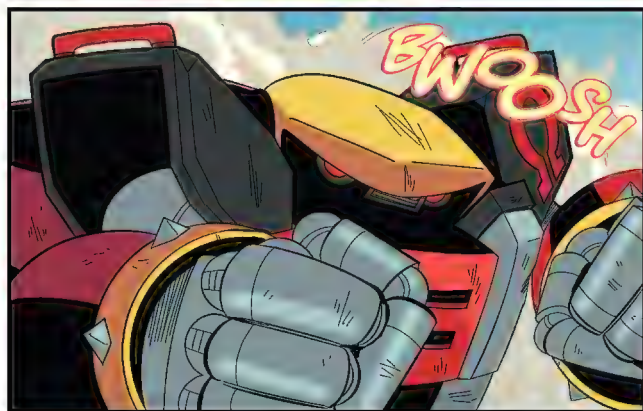
YOU AND I ARE SIMILAR IN ORIGIN. WE ARE BOTH WEAPONS THAT HAVE BROKEN FREE OF EGGMAN'S GRASP.

ACCOMPANY ME IN MY MISSION TO DESTROY HIS FORCES. RECLAIM YOUR ORIGINAL FUNCTION AS A BATTLE ROBOT.

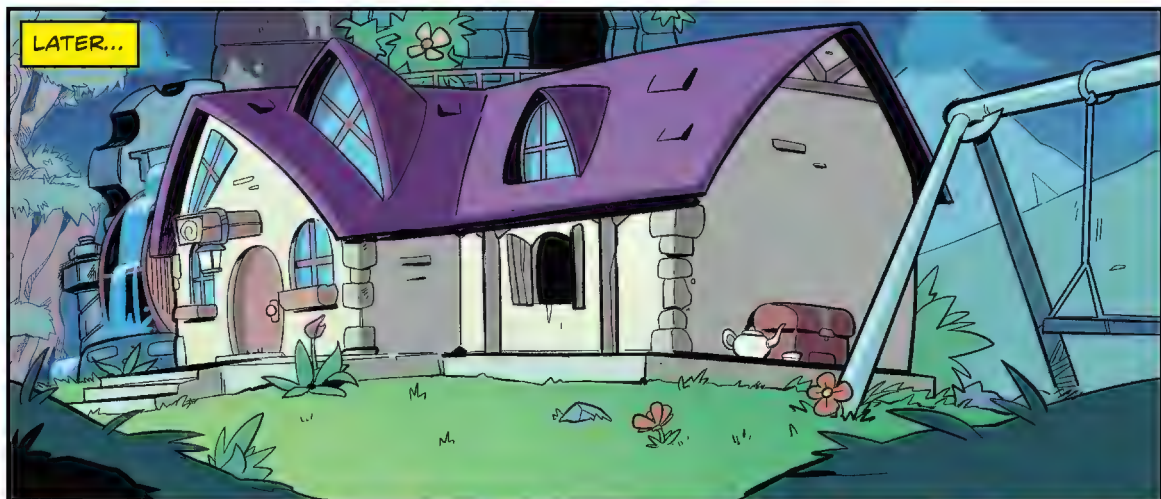
ABANDON THE PUNY RABBIT FAMILY.







LATER...



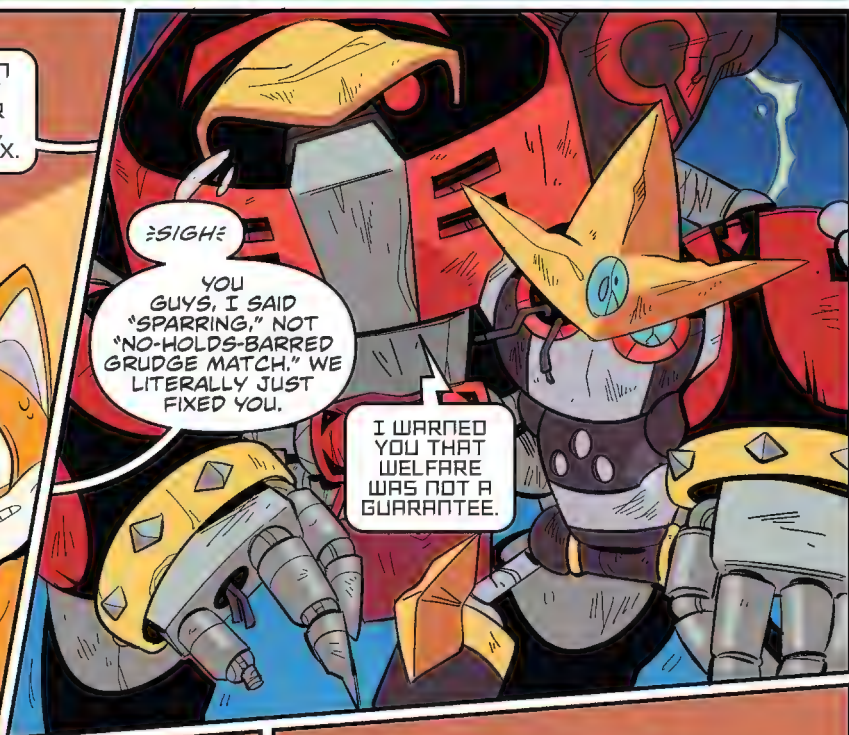
WE ARE IN
NEED OF
FURTHER
REPAIRS,
SMALL FOX.



==SIGH==

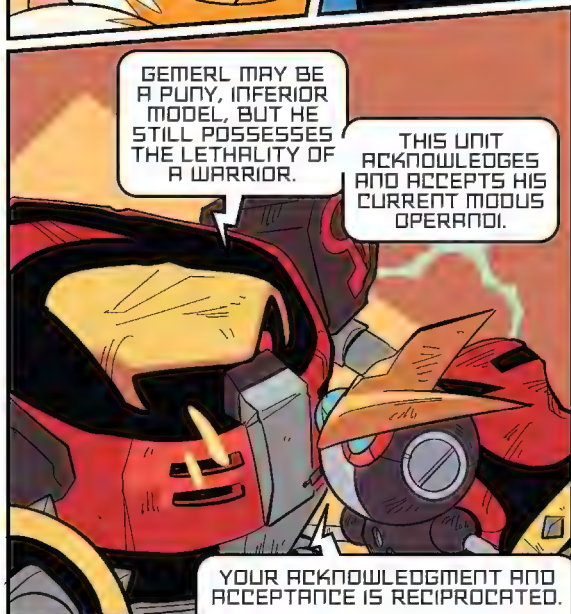
YOU
GUYS, I SAID
"SPARRING," NOT
"NO-HOLDS-BARRED
GRUDGE MATCH." WE
LITERALLY JUST
FIXED YOU.

I WARNED
YOU THAT
WELFARE
WAS NOT A
GUARANTEE.



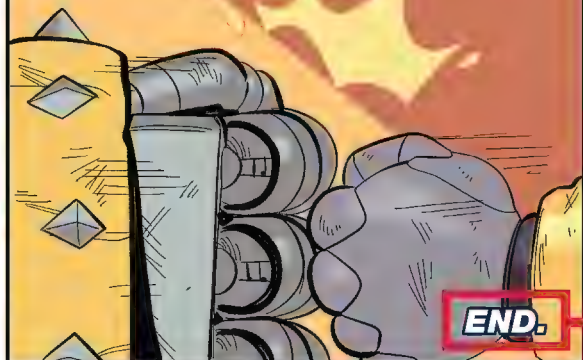
GEMERL MAY BE
A PUNY, INFERIOR
MODEL, BUT HE
STILL POSSESSES
THE LETHALITY OF
A WARRIOR.

THIS UNIT
ACKNOWLEDGES
AND ACCEPTS HIS
CURRENT MODUS
OPERANDI.



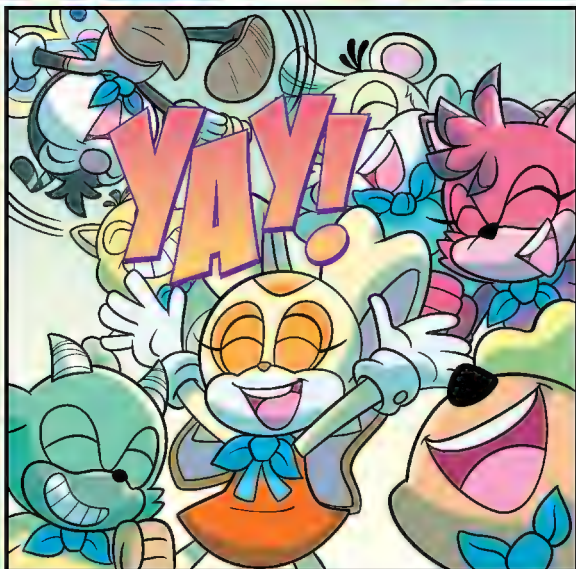
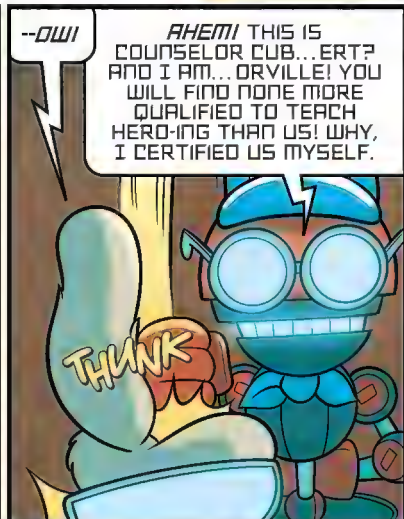
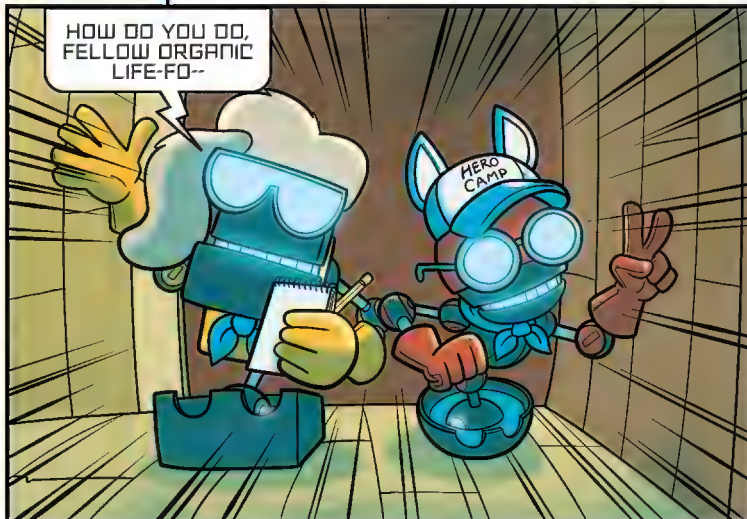
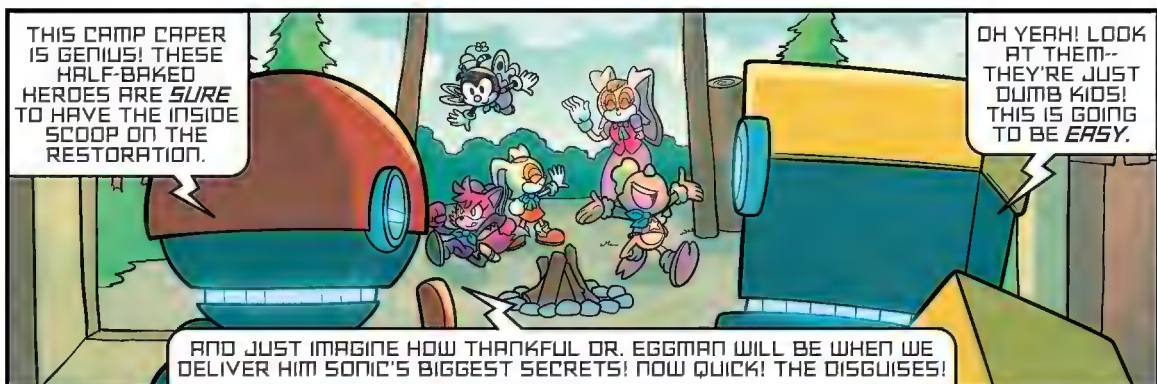
YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND
ACCEPTANCE IS RECIPROCATED.

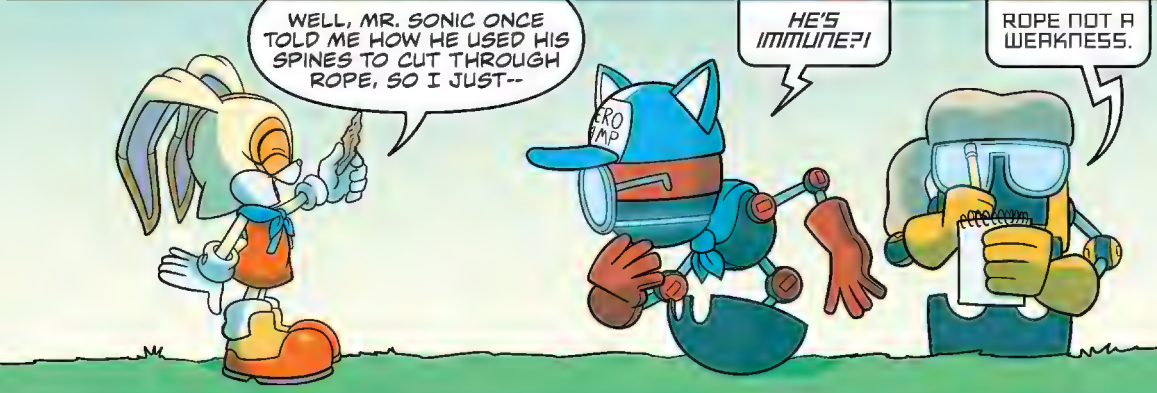
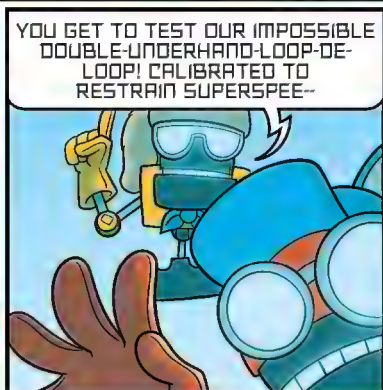
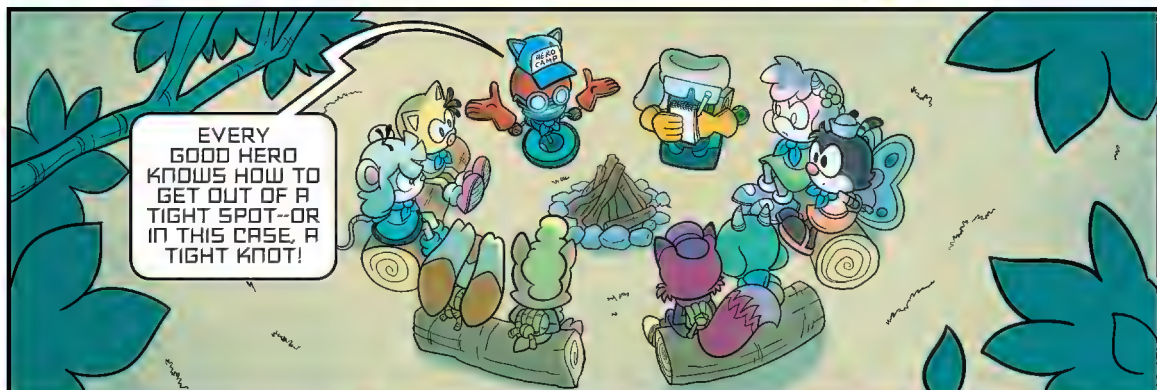
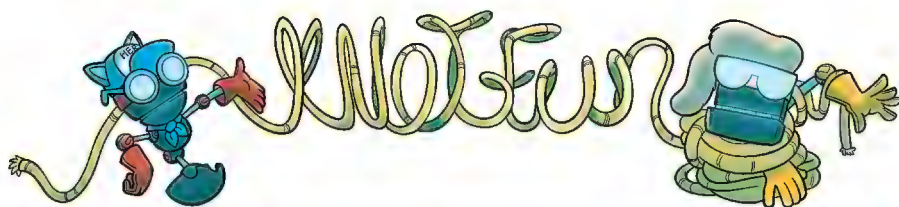
RESPECT

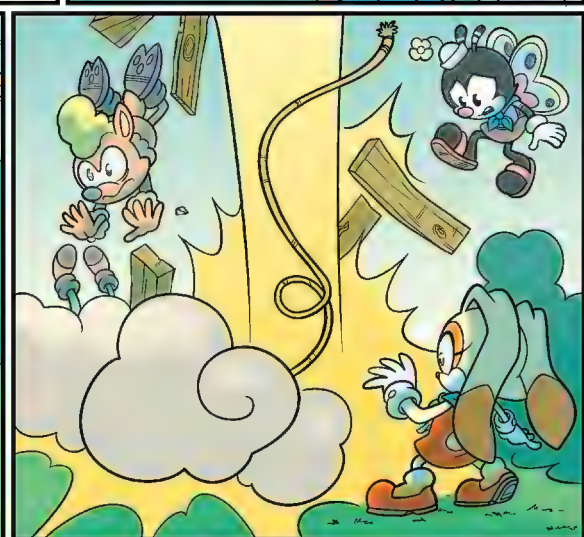
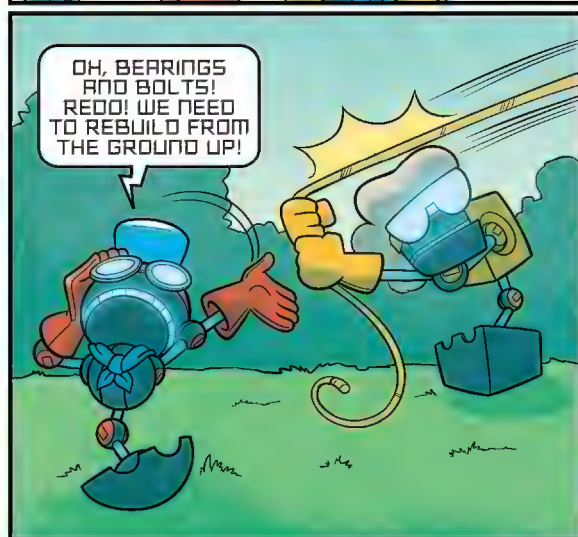
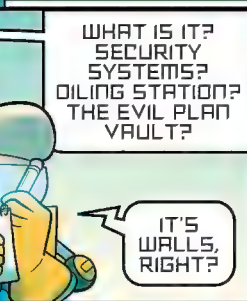
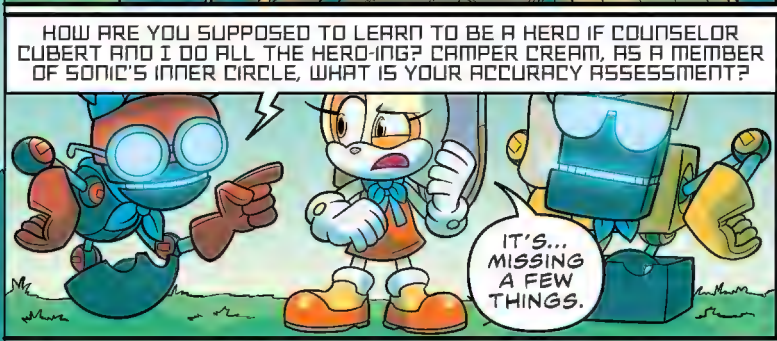
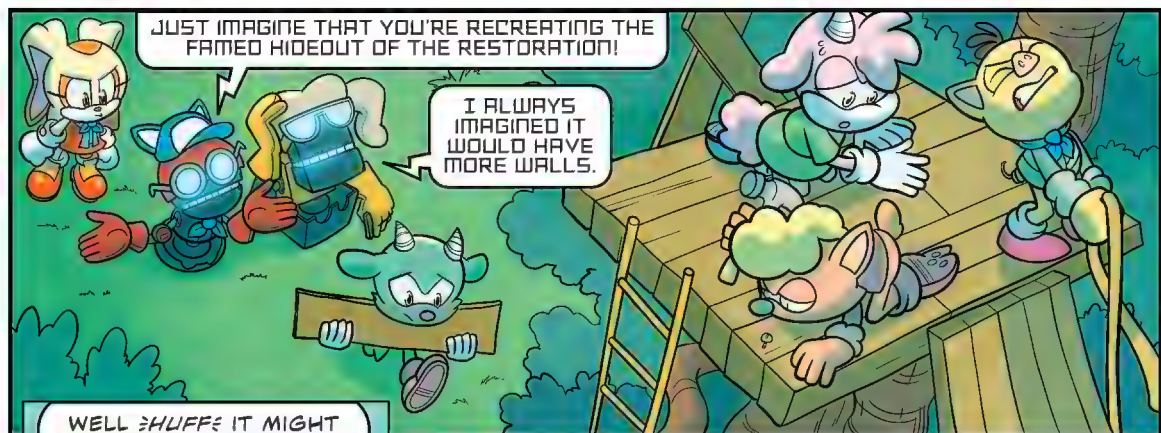
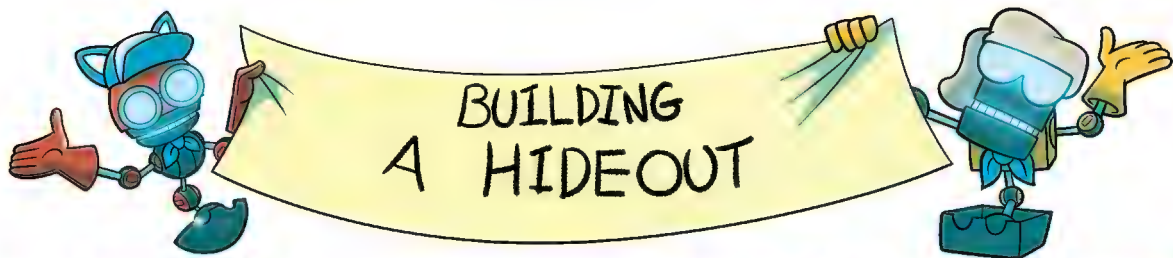


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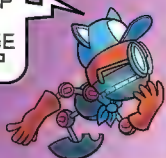








SO WHAT'S
NEXT? TRAP
MAKING?
APOCALYPSE
SURVIVAL?



S'MORES



HEY, NINE OUT OF
TEN DATABASES
LIST SCARY STORIES
UNDER CLASSIC CAMP
ACTIVITIES. WHO CAN
TELL ME A STORY
THAT WOULD SCARE
EVEN A HERO?



MAYBE INVOLVING SOME KIND OF NEW BADNIK? BONUS
POINTS IF YOU CAN ALSO GIVE US SCHEMATICS.



ERRRM... HOW
ABOUT WE JUST
MAKE SOME
S'MORES?



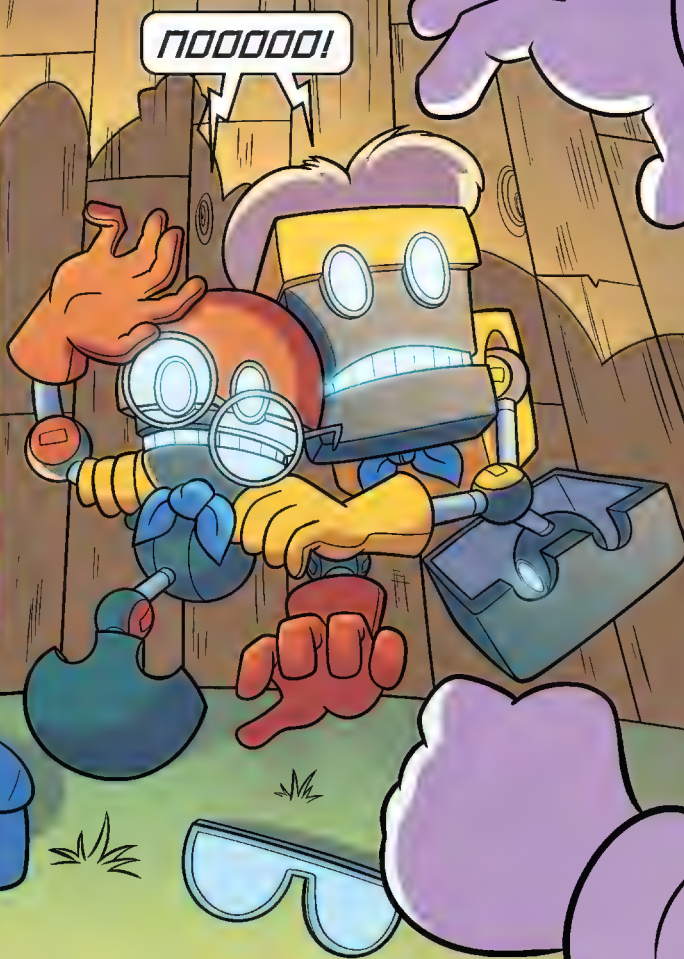
WHAT'S A
S'MORE?



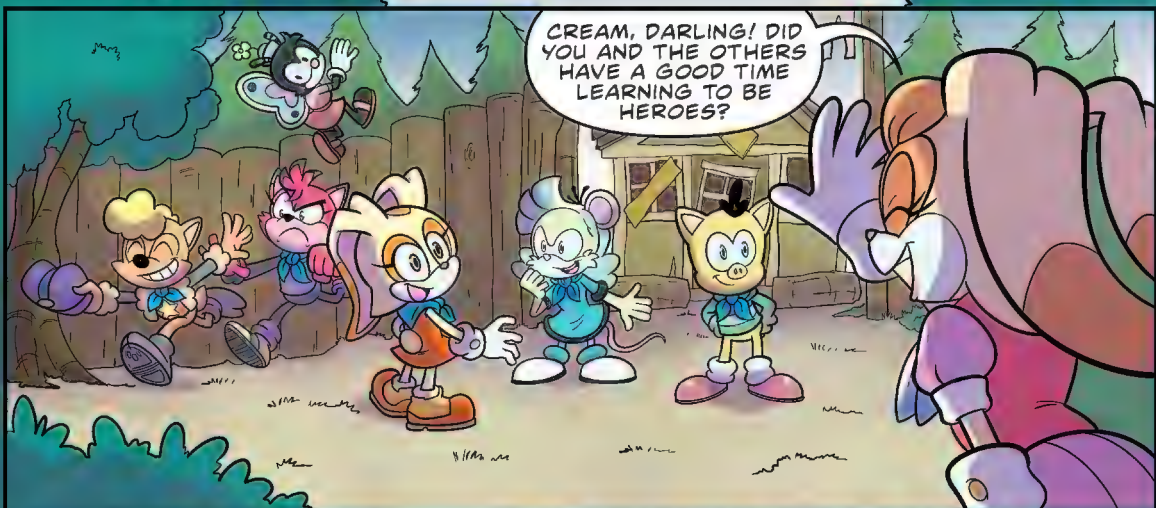
THAT'S IT! YOU DON'T
KNOW HOW TO TIE
KNOTS, BUILD HIDEOUTS,
OR MAKE S'MORES?!
YOU'RE NO CAMP
LEADERS!



GET 'EM!



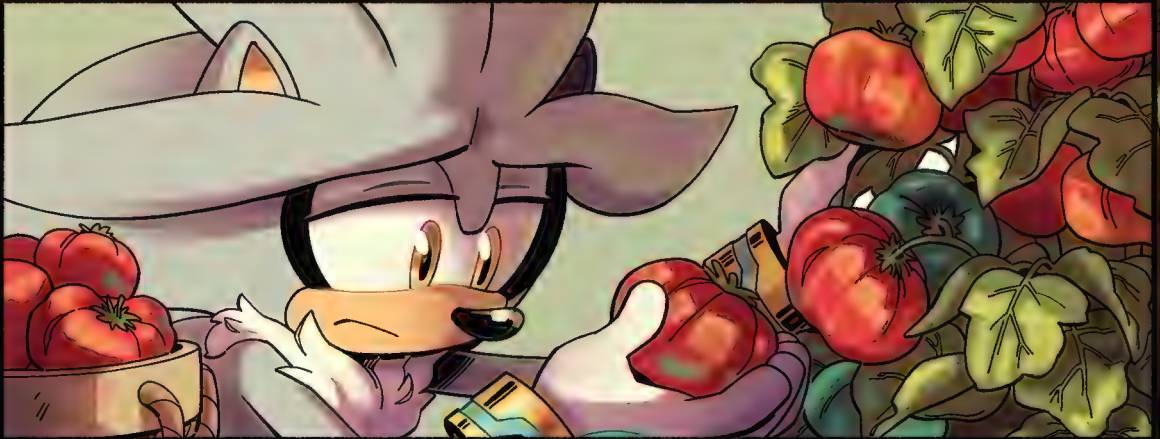
NOOOOO!

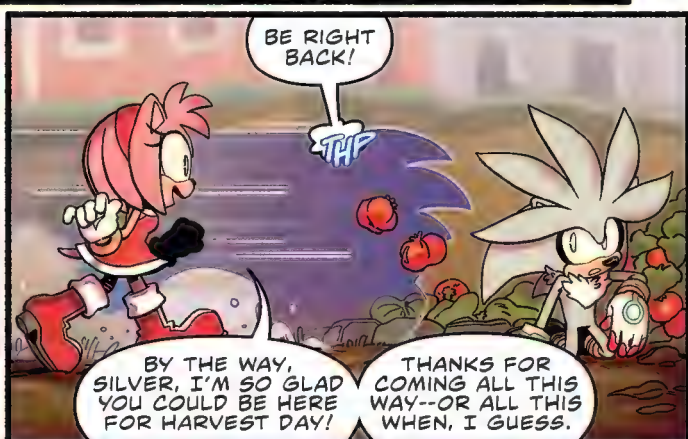
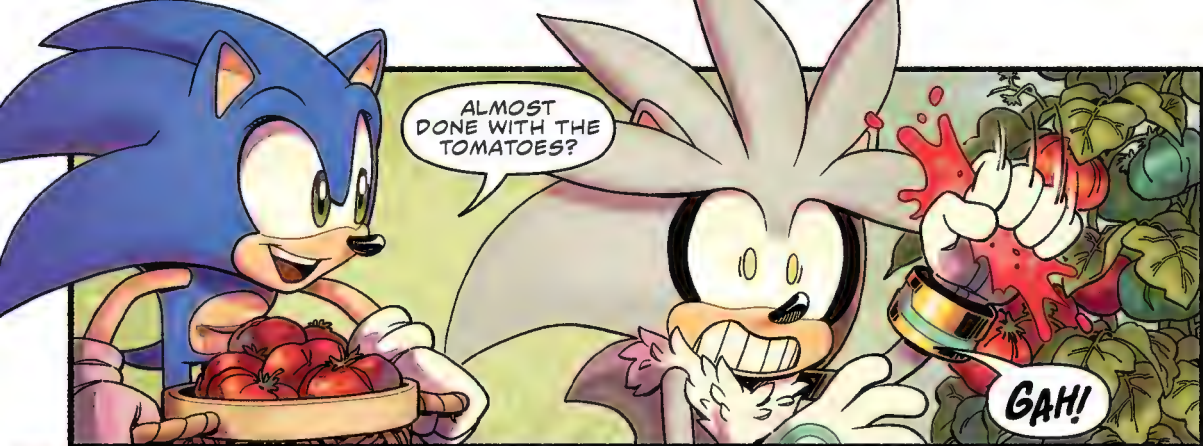


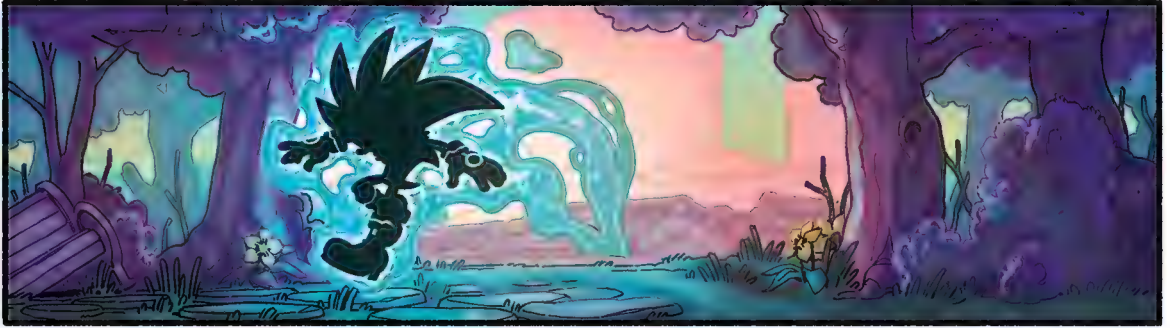
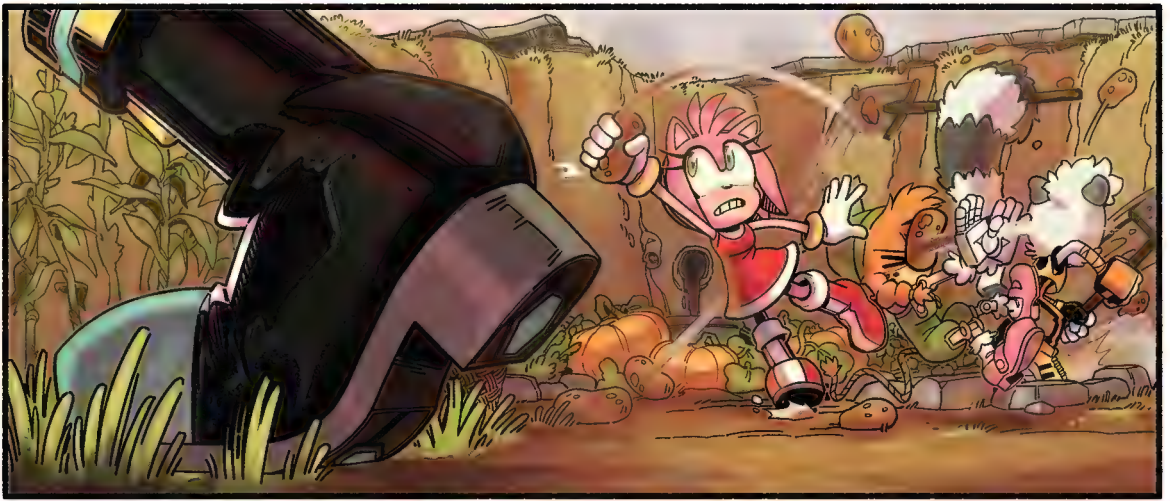
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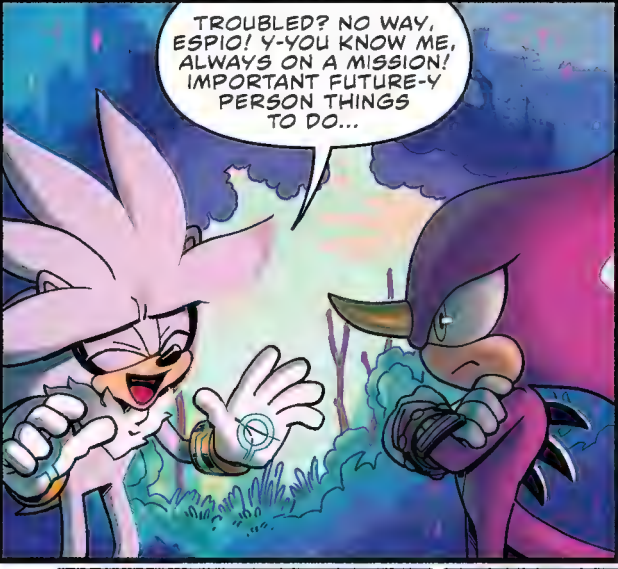
HARVEST TIME AT
RESTORATION HQ.

**FUTURE
GROWTH**








A two-panel comic strip. In the first panel, Amy is on the left, looking surprised with her mouth open and hands raised. Espio is on the right, looking serious with his hands crossed. In the second panel, Amy is holding up her right hand, palm facing Espio. Espio is looking at her with a serious expression.

TROUBLED? NO WAY, ESPIO! Y-YOU KNOW ME, ALWAYS ON A MISSION! IMPORTANT FUTURE-Y PERSON THINGS TO DO...

YOU'RE ALSO BAD AT LYING.

I KNOW.

I DON'T WANT TO PRY, BUT IF YOU ARE CONCEALING SOME SORT OF DANGER... I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT IT.

A close-up panel of Amy. She has a worried expression, with her hands covering her mouth and eyes. Her hands are white with blue gloves and orange wristbands.


IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT. IT'S, WELL...

...I'M NOT HERE FOR THE HARVEST. ACTUALLY, I HAVE NO IDEA WHY I'M HERE AT ALL.

A panel showing Amy standing on a rock, looking through binoculars. Espio is lying on the ground in front of her, looking up at her. The background is a dark, misty forest.

DO ANY OF US KNOW WHY WE'RE HERE?

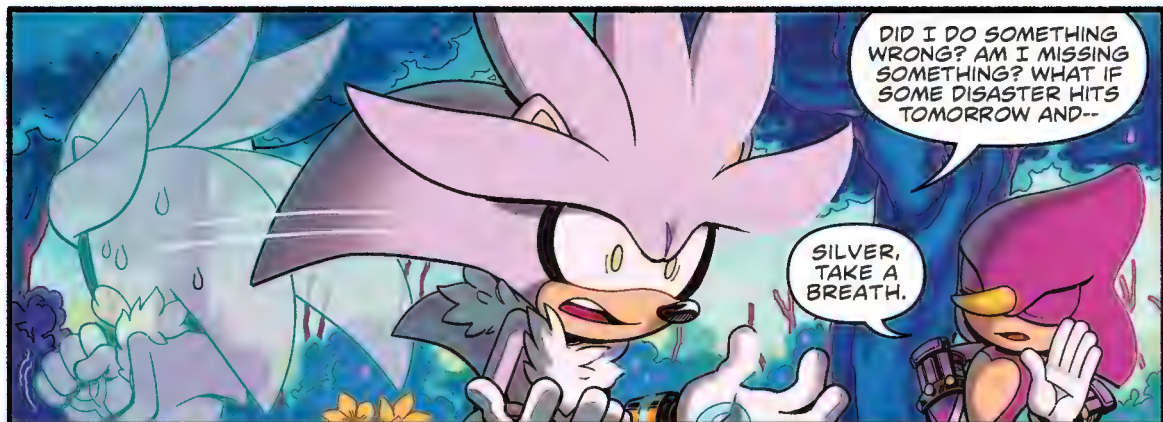
I DO! I MEAN, I USUALLY DO.

A large panel showing a close-up of Espio's face. He is looking down with a serious, determined expression. His hands are clasped in front of him, showing his blue gloves and orange wristbands.

EVERY OTHER TIME I'VE BEEN SENT TO THE PAST, IT'S BEEN TO SAVE THE FUTURE FROM TURNING INTO ANOTHER WRECKED WORLD. THAT'S MY JOB. MY PURPOSE.

AND I ALWAYS KNOW WHAT I NEED TO DO BECAUSE IT'S HISTORY! BUT THIS TIME... NOTHING. THERE'S NO CRISIS IN MY FUTURE, AND THINGS ARE OKAY HERE.

EVERYTHING'S FINE, BUT... I'M NOT.



DID I DO SOMETHING WRONG? AM I MISSING SOMETHING? WHAT IF SOME DISASTER HITS TOMORROW AND--

SILVER, TAKE A BREATH.



IN, SLOW AND STEADY...

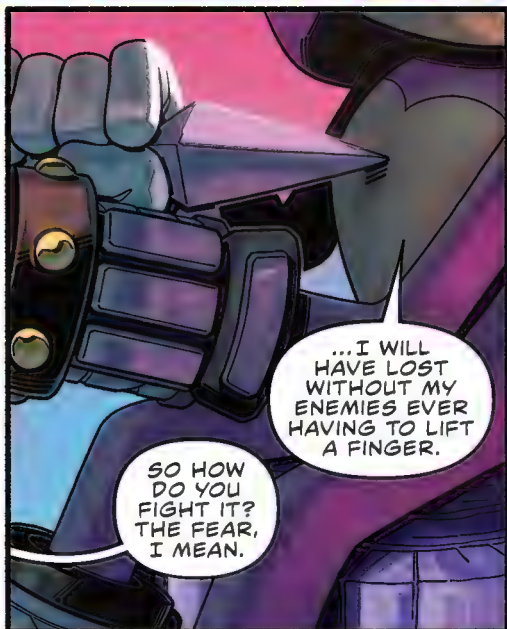


BREW!



AS A NINJA, MY FIRST PRIORITY IS THE SUCCESS OF MY MISSIONS. BUT AS A FRIEND... I CARE FOR THE SAFETY OF MY TEAM.

DANGER COULD BE WAITING FOR ME AROUND EVERY TURN. IF I ALLOW IT, MY FEAR WILL CONSUME ME. AND IF IT DOES...



...I WILL HAVE LOST WITHOUT MY ENEMIES EVER HAVING TO LIFT A FINGER.

SO HOW DO YOU FIGHT IT? THE FEAR, I MEAN.



MY TECHNIQUE IS SIMPLY TO HAVE FAITH. IN YOURSELF, AND THE STRENGTH OF YOUR FRIENDS.

YOU MAY NOT KNOW WHY YOU ARE HERE NOW, BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER. YOU ARE WHERE YOU NEED TO BE.

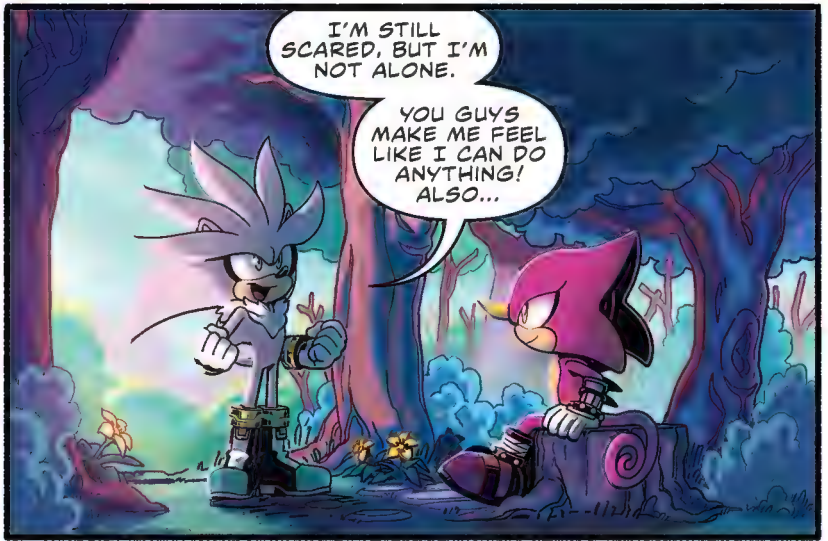


AND IF THERE'S TROUBLE, THERE ARE QUITE A FEW PEOPLE BACK THERE THAT ARE READY TO STAND WITH YOU.

SO GO BACK TO THE GARDEN AND LET YOURSELF ENJOY THE FRUITS OF YOUR LABOR. YOU DESERVE THAT MUCH.



RIGHT.



I'M STILL SCARED, BUT I'M NOT ALONE.

YOU GUYS MAKE ME FEEL LIKE I CAN DO ANYTHING! ALSO...



...THANKS, ESPIO. FOR REAL.

OH! UH--



HEY, ESPIO! WHERE'D YOU GO? WE'VE GOT A BEE PROBLEM!

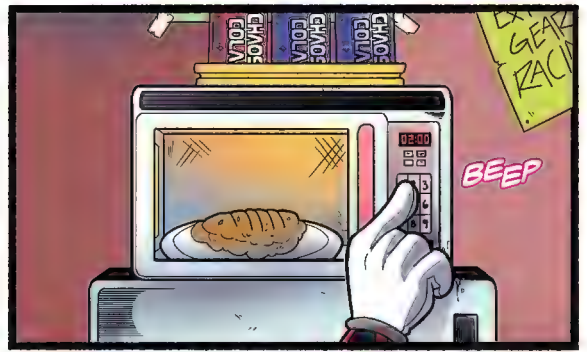
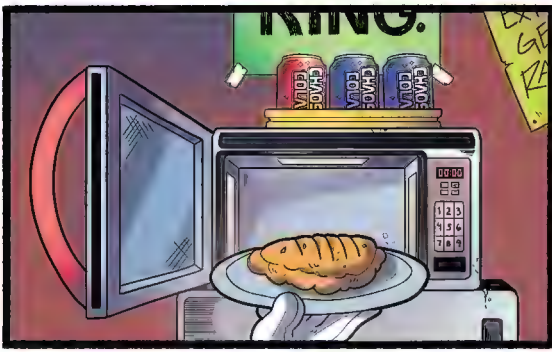
YARR, I'M THE POTATO KING!



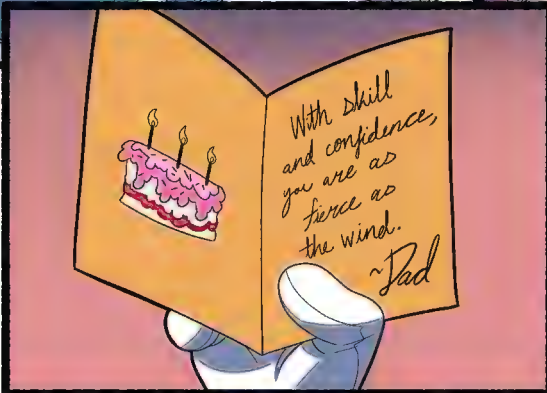
NEED SOME HELP?

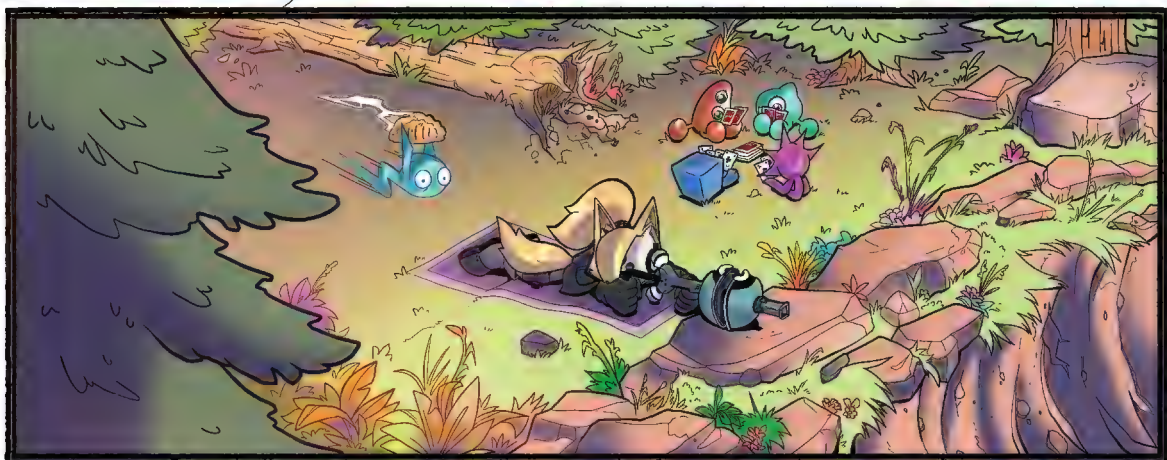
PLEASE.

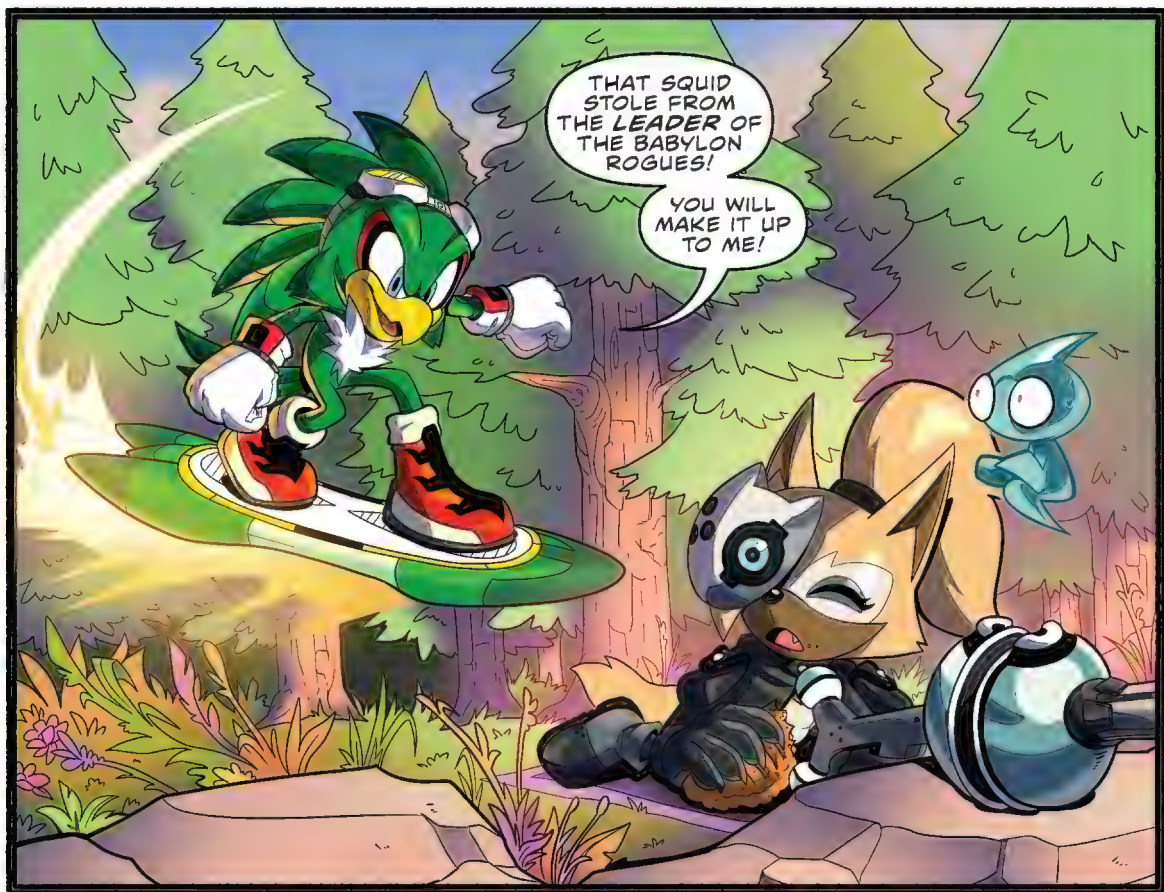
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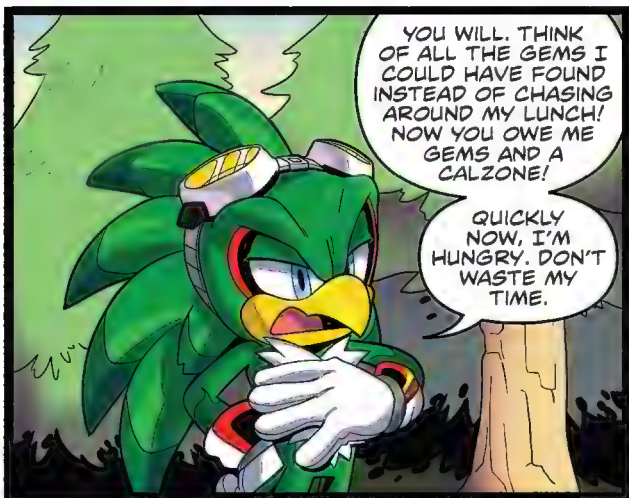


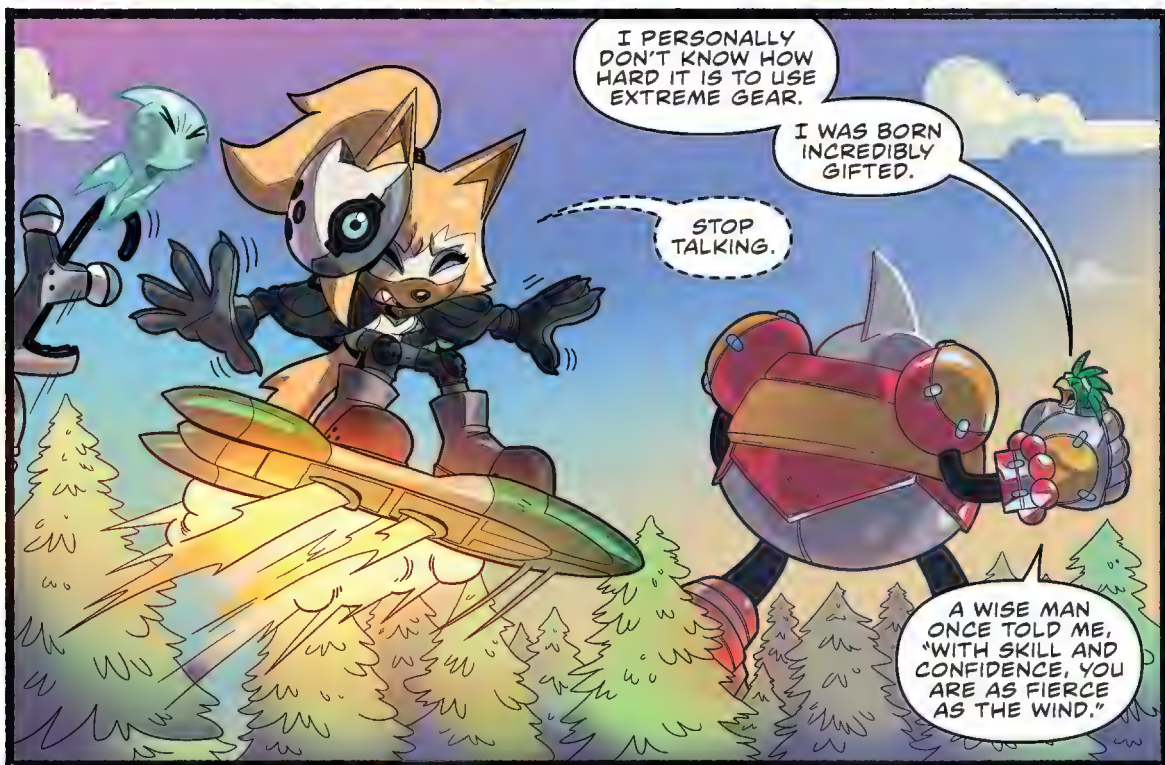
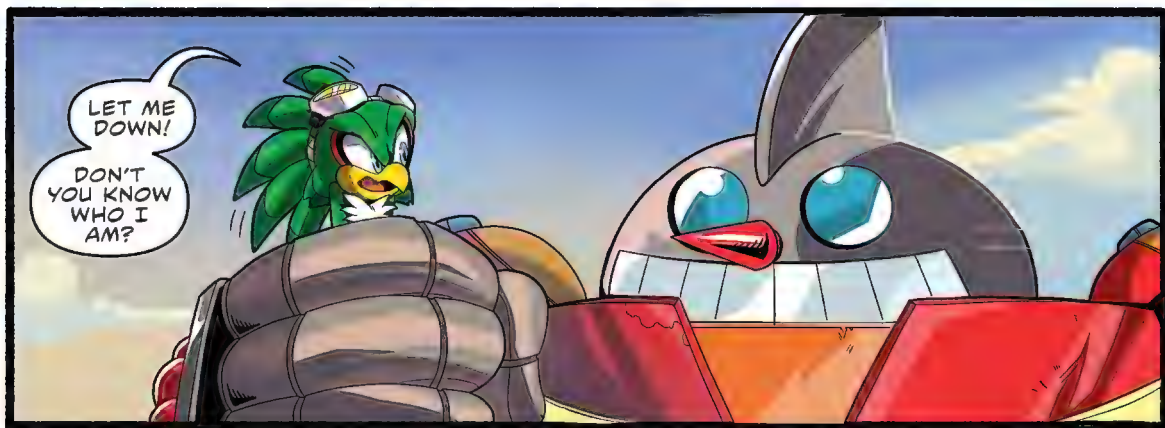
**ANOTHER
GRAND
ADVENTURE
FOR
JET THE
HAWK**













SPIRAL HILL VILLAGE.

A ROUGH PATCH

WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT, SLANT RHYMES?!



I DON'T EVEN WANNA HEAR YOUR PLAN IF IT'S AS DUMB AS YOUR RHYMES ARE, MAN!



SO MY PLANS ARE DUMB NOW, HUH?! YOU TRY MAKIN' ONE, THEN!



THAT WAS A SLANT RHYME, BRO.



YOU KNOW, WHEN OUR INTROS ONLY KINDA RHYME? THAT'S A SLANT RHYME.

OKAY? SO WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

PEOPLE AIN'T GONNA TAKE US SERIOUSLY IF WE CAN'T GET THE RHYME RIGHT, ROUGH! REMEMBER HOW SONIC LAUGHED AT US?

THAT GUY LAUGHS AT EVERYONE. WE'LL FIGURE OUT A BETTER RHYME LATER--



NO, WE GOTTA GET THE INTRO RIGHT NOW! OUR REP'S AT STAKE, BRO!

I SAID WE'LL GET TO IT! AT LEAST LET ME SAY WHAT THE REST OF THE STINKIN' PLAN IS!



MAYBE I WILL! AND MAYBE I'LL DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

FINE! YOU COULDN'T DO BETTER RHYMIN' IF YOU WERE TRYIN'!



JUST GET OUTTA HERE!

IF I NEVER SEE YOUR STINKIN' FACE AGAIN--


IT'LL BE
TOO SOON!

THAT NIGHT,
THE MINERAL
MUSEUM.

NEW EXHIBIT!
CHAOS
EMERALDS
JUST DISCOVERED!



THIS
HEIST'LL BE
HUGE...



WE'VE
GOT THE
RIGHT
STUFF...



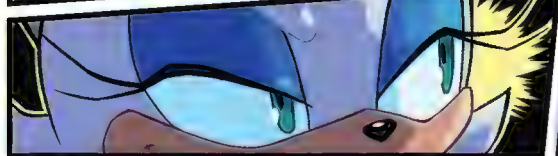
IT WON'T BE
A FUMBLE...



WE'LL
TAKE A NEW
ANGLE...



IT'S EMERALD-
SNATCHIN' TIME
FOR...





WELL I'M NOT GONNA LET 'EM!

I'LL ADMIT, YOURS ISN'T A FACE I EXPECTED TO SEE AT A JEWEL HEIST.

OH, YOU KNOW. JUST DOIN' SOME BABYSITTING.

PSST, YOU'RE UNDERCOVER, TOO, RIGHT?

C'MON, PARTNER, GET IN THERE!

SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

HOW'D THAT GUY GET YOU ON BOARD FOR SOMETHING LIKE THIS?

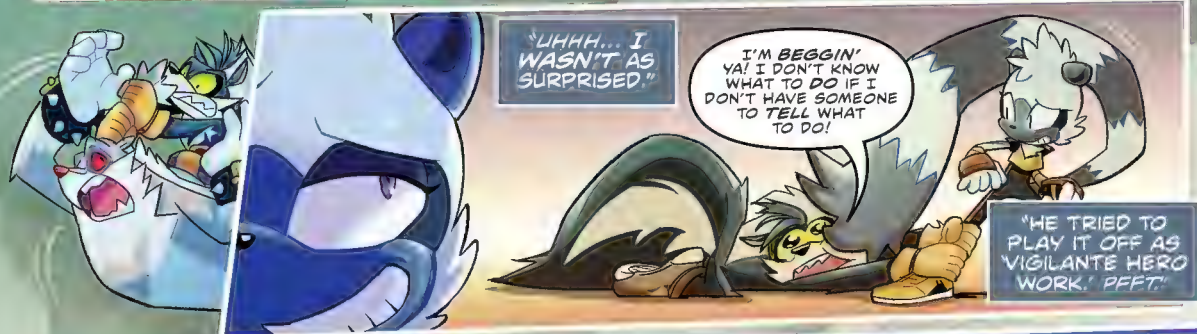
"WELL, I HAPPENED TO BE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD FOR REASONS HE SAW ME FLYING BY, INVITED ME DOWN, Laid OUT HIS PLAN. I WAS SURPRISED BY HIS COMPETENCE, HONESTLY."

...AND THAT'S THE PLAN!

I LIKE IT! I WANTED TO FIND THE EMERALD BEFORE EGGMAN, ANYWAY!

SEE? IT ALL FITS TOGETHER PERFECTLY!

WOW! WHAT ABOUT YOU?



"UHHH... I WASN'T AS SURPRISED."

I'M BEGGIN' Y'ALL I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO IF I DON'T HAVE SOMEONE TO TELL WHAT TO DO!

"HE TRIED TO PLAY IT OFF AS VIGILANTE HERO WORK." PFFT!"



STILL, BREAKING INTO YOUR FRIEND'S OWN MUSEUM?

OH, I COME IN THROUGH THE SKYLIGHT AND TAKE JEWEL OUT ON IMPROMPTU ADVENTURES ALL THE TIME!

H.M. SOUNDS FUN.



WELL, I'VE SPENT JUST ABOUT ENOUGH TIME DAWDLING HERE. YOU WANNA HELP ME BRING THESE GOONS IN?

WOULD I! OOH! DO YOU HAVE A PLAN IN MIND ALREADY?

I WOULDN'T BE THE WORLD'S GREATEST THI--TREASURE HUNTER IF I DIDN'T.

AW YEAH! UNDERCOVER BUDDIES!





END.



**FOLLOW THE ACTION IN
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #52**



SONIC

LETTERS SQUAD

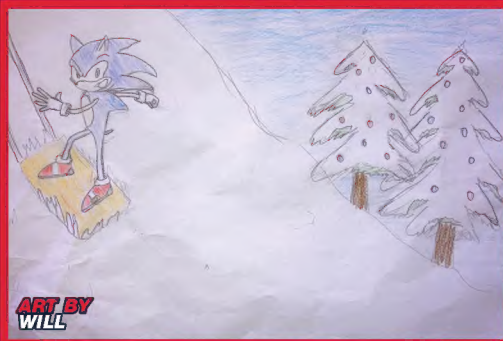


Hello, Sonic Squad! We hope you enjoyed this year's annual! It's always a blast getting to catch up with characters we haven't seen in a while. Thank you for joining Ian Flynn, Adam Bryce Thomas, Joana Lafuente, Daniel Barnes, Thomas Rothlisberger, Leonardo Ito, India Swift, Abby Bulmer, Heather Breckel, Evan Stanley, Gigi Dutreix, Ian Mutchler, Natalie Haines, Priscilla Tramontano, Aaron Hammerstrom, Valentina Pinto, and Shawn Lee for so many amazing adventures! Now, let's check out your letters and art!

Dear Team Sonic,

We are Jacob (14) & Will (9), two brothers that love the Sonic world. We have been big fans ever since we saw the first Sonic movie and then we started buying the comic books and drawing heaps of pictures of Sonic and the other characters.

Will's favorite character is Sonic because he's so fun, cheeky, and such an adventurous



character. Jacob's favorite character is Tangle because she's so optimistic, adventure seeking, and always does what's right. Will's favorite issue is #36 because Sonic & Shadow have an epic fail on an attempt to stop an avalanche. Jacob's favorite issue is #49 because the characters in this issue find out more about themselves and also because the Beetle Bot that Mr. Tinker recreated to cut hedges is back!

Thanks for all your hard work with the comic books.

Jacob & Will

Dear Jacob and Will,

Thank you so much for your art and letter! I love that you two are both big fans of Sonic now. I bet it's fun to have someone to nerd out with in your house! You know, it's funny that you mention the avalanche in #36, since there was also an avalanche in the newest Sonic movie, and in your picture! Good thing Sonic is faster than snow, unlike a certain platypus...

I hope you both keep enjoying the comics! Have you tried reading them aloud with fun voices? I know a lot of our readers enjoy that!

P.S. The Beetle Bot is a Badnik model called a Motobug that we call Motobuddy!



Hi,

I'm really good at the Sonic speed runs so please make more speed runs and maybe make some in the 2D world. I'm a fan of Sonic and my name is Max. I'm six years old.

The only thing wrong about chili dogs is that they're not fast food.

Sincerely,
Max



Hi, Max,

Oh heck, I'm no good at Sonic speed runs! You'll have to share some of your skills with me. But IDW just makes the comics, not the games, so unfortunately, I cannot make more for you... But I'm sure Sega has lots of plans for more games in the future.

You make an excellent point about chili dogs that made me laugh a lot. They're definitely not a typical fast-food-restaurant food, but I'm pretty sure you can find them somewhere! I'm almost certain that Sonic's world has one... They have to, right?

Thank you for your letter and art!

Thanks for joining us, Squad. Don't forget to send your art and letters to letters@idwpublishing.com, and make sure to mark them "OKAY TO PRINT"! And join the IDW Sonic Comics Squad on Facebook! Check out Sonic The Hedgehog #52 later this month!



**START
HERE**

**VOL. 1:
Fallout!**

**VOL. 2:
The Fate of
Dr. Eggman**

**VOL. 3:
Battle for
Angel Island**

**VOL. 4:
Infection**

Tangle & Whisper

**VOL. 5:
Crisis City**

**VOL. 6:
The Last Minute**

**VOL. 7:
All or Nothing**

**VOL. 8:
Out of the Blue**

Bad Guys

**VOL. 9:
Chao Races &
Badnik Bases**

**VOL. 10:
Test Run!**

**VOL. 11:
Zeti Hunt!**

**VOL. 12:
Trial by Fire**

Imposter Syndrome

**Available October 2022*

**Available September 2022*

SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG

READING GUIDE



20
22

It's a little mangled, it's kind of jumbled, it's the *2022 Annual* with Rough & Tangle and Rouge & Tumble! Join Sonic and friends as the most unlikely of pairs team up!

IDW